

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/TB:CLSTERMER:BB

APPROVED BY S/NM:SBVANCE

S/NM:JRAFFERTY

EA/RA:WGALLAGHER

DEA/INT:PNIBLO

EA/TB:GBROBERTS

DEA/MEXICO:REYEMAN (SUBS)

S/NM:RDUGSTAD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095169

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:SNAR, BM

SUBJECT:PROPOSED VISIT OF BURMESE NARCOTICS OFFICIALS

REF: RANGOON 919

1. DEA AND STATE FULLY SUPPORT THIS PROPOSED VISIT AND ARE PREPARED TO MOVE AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS DESIRED TO ARRANGE AN OBSERVATION TOUR WITH A TECHNOLOGICAL ORIENTATION TO FIT BURMESE INTERESTS.

2. EXCEPT FOR MINOR CHANGES, YOUR SUGGESTED FOUR-PHASE TOUR IS FINE. DURING PHASE I, DEA/STATE BRIEFINGS AND THE COMPASS TRIP WILL COVER SEVERAL DAYS. DURING PHASE II, VISITS TO NEW YORK (DEA TECHNICAL SUPPORT CENTER), MIAMI (COASTAL CONTROL), AND DALLAS/EL PASO (JOINT US-MEXICAN INTELLIGENCE CENTER) FOR AN ORIENTATION/OBSERVATION TOUR
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OF WIDELY DIFFERENT DEA PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES WILL

COVER 7-10 DAYS. A VISIT TO MEXICO MAY BE USEFUL. WHILE OPIUM HARVEST SEASON IN MEXICO MAY HAVE ENDED BEFORE BURMESE ARRIVAL, MEXICO LIKE BURMA DOES NOT HAVE AID PROGRAM. BURMESE EXPOSURE TO MEXICAN EXPERIENCE WITH NARCOTICS PROGRAM IN COOPERATION WITH US MIGHT BE HELPFUL EXPERIENCE. ALSO MEXICO ALREADY HAS COMPASS TRIP EQUIPMENT AND IF ASKED WOULD BE HAPPY TO SHOW BURMESE VISITORS. WHILE IN TEXAS, WE RECOMMEND THAT A VISIT TO THE BELL HELICOPTER PLANT AT FORTH WORTH BE ARRANGED. DURING PHASE III ON TRAINING, WE PLAN TO ARRANGE A SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION ON VARIOUS HELICOPTER USES. (FYI: SOME THAI BORDER PATROL POLICE OFFICIALS RECENTLY FOUND THIS TO BE HIGHLIGHT OF THEIR TRIP. END FYI.) THE SUGGESTIONS FOR PHASE IV CAN BE ARRANGED EASILY.

3. AN EXPERIENCED DEA OFFICER WILL ACCOMPANY THE GROUP AS RECOMMENDED. WE ALSO PLAN TO INCLUDE A STATE OFFICER TO DEMONSTRATE OUR OVERALL POLICY DIRECTION INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAMS.

4. FOR US TO PREPARE A DETAILED ITINERARY, WE NOW NEED A SPECIFIC COMMITMENT FROM THE BURMESE ON THE TIME-FRAME FOR THIS PROPOSED VISIT AND IDENTIFICATION OF THE OFFICIALS INVOLVED. WE ALSO SUGGEST THAT THE EMBASSY CONSIDER RECOMMENDING EXTRAORDINARY PER DIEM, \$40 PER DAY, FOR THE VISITORS. KISSINGER

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